

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: PORG, OAS, PE

SUBJECT: OAS CHARTER REFORM

REF: LIMA 5490

1. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE OAS CHARTER ALONG WITH THE TWO DRAFT CONVENTIONS, ONE ON COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ONE ON COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY, HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE PERMANENT COUNCIL. THEY ARE NOW BEFORE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS FOR THEIR COMMENTS PRIOR TO THE CONVOCA-
TION OF A SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OAS REFORM AND RESTRUCTURING. THE SPECIAL GA WILL BE HELD IN LIMA BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF A DATE YET.

2. AT THE OASGA IN SANTIAGO IN 1976 THE U.S. TABLED A PROPOSAL TO RESTRUCTURE THE OAS, AND THIS PROPOSAL IS
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INCLUDED AMONG THE DOCUMENTS BEFORE GOVERNMENTS FOR COMMENT. AT GRENADA SECRETARY VANCE AGAIN DISCUSSED THE U.S. RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS. WE ANNOUNCED THAT WE WILL PRESENT DETAILED FOLLOW-UP PROPOSALS IN THE PERMANENT COUNCIL. WE ALSO REITERATED OUR SUPPORT FOR A HIGH-LEVEL PREPARATORY MEETING BEFORE THE SPECIAL GA. IN OUR VIEW SUCH A MEETING WOULD CONSIDER NOT ONLY THE DRAFT TREATIES AND

CHARTER AMENDMENTS BUT ALSO OUR RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS.

THE PERUVIAN DELEGATION WAS IMMEDIATELY INTERESTED AND
WAS THE FIRST TO REQUEST A COPY OF THE U.S. STATEMENT.

3. WE ANTICIPATE PRESENTING OUR DETAILED PROPOSALS
PERHAPS WHEN THE PERMANENT COUNCIL RECONVENES IN SEPTEMBER, AT WHICH TIME WE MIGHT SUGGEST A SPECIFIC DATE FOR
THE LIMA SPECIAL GA AND ITS PREPARATORY MEETING.

4. WE HAVE TAKEN NO POSITIONS RECENTLY ON COLLECTIVE
ECONOMIC SECURITY. AFTER LAST YEAR'S GA THE PERUVIANS
DEVELOPED THE MISTAKEN IDEA, OF WHICH THEY PERHAPS ARE
NOT YET DISABUSED, THAT OUR PROBLEM IS WITH THE WORD
"COLLECTIVE", AND THAT DROPPING THAT WORD WOULD MAKE THE
CONCEPT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY AND EVEN THE DRAFT CONVENTION
PALATABLE TO US. IN FACT OUR POSITION HAS BEEN
THAT WE ACCEPT THE PHRASE "COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY"
BUT WE CANNOT ACCEPT THE PRESENT DRAFT TREATY TEXT WHICH
WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF PUTTING THE U.S. OR ANY OTHER
ACCUSED COUNTRY IN THE DOCK TO BE JUDGED FOR ECONOMIC
AGGRESSION BY THE OTHERS.

5. PERU DOES NOT SEEM TO BE AS COMMITTED A PROPONENT OF
COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY AND THE DRAFT CHARTER
AMENDMENTS AS IT WAS LAST YEAR. WHILE OUR POSITION IS
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DEVELOPING IN WASHINGTON WE DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE
PARTICULARLY PROPITIOUS TO RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH THE
PERUVIANS. IF THEY BRING IT UP WE WOULD OF COURSE BE
INTERESTED IN THEIR CURRENT THINKING. VANCE

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